Patent Claims

1. A method for processing goods with an automatic address reading system, wherein for each item an image of the surface containing the address information is obtained and is supplied to a first automatic evaluation device and wherein address information that is not completely evaluated is supplied to a first video coding for evaluation,

**characterized in that**

the address information of those images, which were not completely evaluated during the video coding, are supplied to another automatic evaluation device, using the results of the video coding.

2. A method for processing goods according to claim 1,

characterized in that

the address information of those images, which were not completely evaluated during the continued automatic evaluation, is supplied to another video coding for evaluation, using the results of the additional automatic evaluation.

3. A method according to claim 1 or 2,

characterized in that

an extraction coding based on predetermined extraction rules is performed during the first video coding.

4. A method according to claim 2 or 3,

characterized in that

a selection coding takes place during the additional video coding, in such a way that a selection is made from a number of alternative evaluation results.

5. A method according to claim 4,

characterized in that

the alternative evaluation results are formed from the unclear results of the extraction coding.

6. A method according to claim 5,

characterized in that

alternative evaluation results are formed from address information, which contains additional sorting information.

7. A method according to one of the claims 1 to 6,

characterized in that a first component of the address information is evaluated and that a second component of the address information is evaluated and that the results of these evaluations are checked with respect to mutual consistency.

8. A method according to claim 7,

characterized in that

the address information of all images, which have been supplied to the first video coding for evaluation, are fed to the additional automatic evaluation device by using the results of the video coding.

9. A method according to the claims 1 to 8,

characterized in that

the first automatic evaluation of the address information is performed on-line or off-line.

10. A method according to claims 1 to 9,

characterized in that

the goods, for which no complete, additional automatic on-line evaluation or an evaluation through video coding of the address information has taken place, are provided with an identification marking (TID) for an additional automatic or video coding, to be performed off-line.

11. A method according to claims 1 to 9,

characterized in that

a preview coding method is used, at least for one of the video coding processes.

12. A method according to claims 1 to 11, characterized in that a differentiation between address information and addressee information is made for the video coding.

13. A device for carrying out the method according to claims 1 to 12, comprising an automatic address reading system which has

- a device for obtaining images of the goods,
- a device for the automatic evaluation of images of goods,
- a device for the video coding of address information,
- an image controller for controlling the data flow between the device for automatic evaluation and the device for video coding, wherein the device for video coding contains a number

of video coding stations,

characterized in that

the image controller is designed in such a way that address information, which is not completely evaluated by the video coding, is supplied to an additional automatic address evaluation device, using the results of the video coding.

14. A device according to claim 13,

characterized in that

a device is provided for affixing identification information (TID) to goods where the address information has not been evaluated completely on-line.